

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
AS DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE DO/EO/US**

U.S. Patent Application No.: Applied For )  
International Application No.: PCT/EP98/0847 ) Group Art Unit: Unknown  
International Filing Date: 28 December 1998 ) Examiner: Unknown  
Priority Date: 28 December 1998 ) Docket No: 13189.134  
For: Methods And Devices For Coding Or )  
Decoding An Audio Signal Or Bit Stream )  
Applicants (Inventors): )  
Ralph Sperschneider, Martin Dietz, )  
Andreas Ehret, Karlheinz Brandenburg,  
Heinz Gerhaeuser, Ali Nowbakht-Irani,  
Pierre Lauber, and Roland Bitto )

---

ATTENTION: EO/US  
BOX PCT  
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

June 27, 2001

Dear Sir:

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In the Specification:

Please substitute the attached specification entitled "Final version of PCT/EP98/08475 for the prosecution at the USPTO to be filed as first preliminary amendment" for the original PCT specification.

In the Claims:

Please substitute the enclosed claims 1 - 26, on pages 31 - 41, inclusive, attached to the substitute specification, for original claims 1 - 26.

In the Abstract:

Please substitute the enclosed abstract, attached to the substitute specification on page 42, for the original abstract.

**U.S. Patent Application No.: Applied For  
International Application No.: PCT/EP98/08475  
First Preliminary Amendment**